

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated March 26, 2004, the Examiner has objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the reference signs “33” and “34” referred to on Page 7, lines 9 and 23 respectively. By this Paper, the reference signs “33” and “34” have now been removed from the Specification, and this objection is no longer applicable. Further, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4, 7, 8, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 9 and 10 have been allowed, and the Examiner has kindly indicated that Claims 5, 6, and 12-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this paper, the Specification, Abstract, and Claims 1, 7, 11, and 15 have been amended to more particularly point out that which the Applicant regards as the invention. Further, Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice. For the reasons set forth fully below, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 11-20, as amended, are allowable (along with Claims 9 and 10).

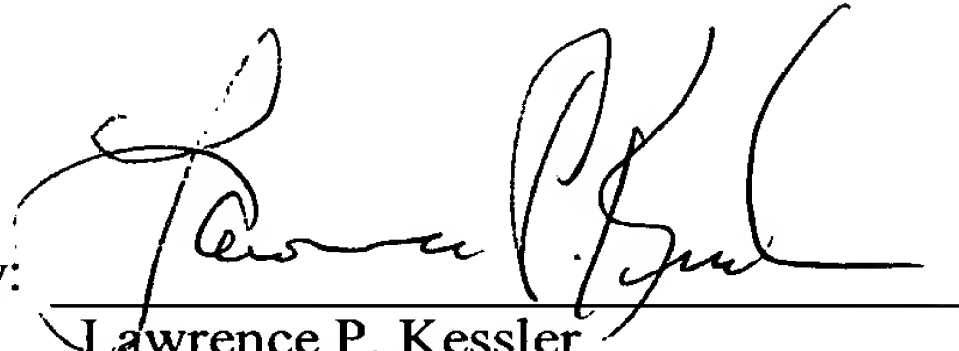
Claims 1-4, 7, 8, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jewell and in view of Vargas, Jr. The Examiner, in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, has stated that the allowed claims were allowed because the prior art fails to disclose a networked system for controlling and monitoring a biased component supply. The rejected claims have been amended by this paper such that all claims now specifically recite a networked system for controlling and monitoring a biased component supply. Accordingly, Applicants’ claimed invention would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of the cited references either individually or in any proper combination. Therefore, amended independent Claims 1 and 11, and Claims 2-4, 7, 8, dependent directly or indirectly thereon (as well as dependent Claims 5 and 12-20), should now be allowed.

Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

U.S. Application No. 10/866,174 – Filed: May 25, 2001
Amendment Dated: June 8, 2004
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This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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